

14998.255

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Akito Nishimura, Toru Arikawa, Yasuhiro Tamaki

Serial No: 09/720,235

Filed: December 20, 2000

For: OPTICAL FERRULE AND MOLDING METHOD THEREFOR, AND  
OPTICAL CONNECTOR USING THIS OPTICAL FERRULE

Art Unit: 2839

Examiner : Javaid H. Nasri

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November 18, 2003Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Sir:

The following Amendment and Response is responsive to the Office Action dated May 19, 2003, a three (3) month statutory response period for which was set for August 19, 2003. Filed concurrently herewith is a Petition for an Extension of Time, extending the period for response to this Office Action until November 19, 2003 and a corresponding extension fee. Accordingly, this Amendment and Response is timely filed.